

I was very pleased with all the school activities that were done and the way they were handled. ...Not only did [my child] receive education but also fun time, and learning to communicate and interact with other children in his age group.

I would like to thank all of the staff for coming together and providing such an educational, warm, welcoming and very comfortable environment.

I would especially like to thank Mrs. Kenyon for your kindness and warm welcoming personality -- as well as the classroom which you have made [like] home. You made my son's first adventure/experience of school so easy for him -- even at the beginning he acted as if he had been there for years. In return that made it so relieving and so much easier to leave him on his very first day or even very first time in school. Thanks again so much for all of the great experiences, Saint John's staff, and for the Chapel as well. My son enjoyed each and every minute of every day he attended.

Mrs. Newsome, parent of a Readiness class (3-year-olds) student
May, 2010

My child loves going to school.

J. Galligan, parent of a Pre-Kindergarten student
May 2010

I am pleased with everything. The teachers are wonderful.

Stacia Dembkoski, parent of a Readiness class (3-year-olds) student
May 2010

[My child] was so excited when she was given the opportunity to go 5 days a week! She loves Mrs. Blair! Our expectations were EXCEEDED!! We most liked the loving and nurturing environment. I love the affordability and the quality of education exceeds the cost.

J. Grell, parent of an Early Learners class (2 ½ year olds) student
May 2010

My expectations were exceeded. [The teacher] Mrs. Blair takes a genuine interest in the "whole" child. All available classes are great.

C. Shakallis, parent of an Early Learners class (2 ½ year olds) student
May 2010

My child enjoyed coming to school here. It's affordable, has great teachers and staff and is wonderfully organized and looked after.

S. Crew, parent of a Readiness class (3-year-olds) student
May 2010

[My child] loved every year. My expectations were exceeded – Mrs. Cooper does an excellent job not just with the academics, but also life teaching. The teachers are very caring – made a home for [my child] to feel safe, confident and happy to go to school.

J. Blair, parent of a First Grade student
May 2010

My expectations were exceeded. We had a wonderful year and truly appreciate all that Mrs. Cooper does! We liked the small classrooms, safety, Chapel and staff. We would recommend Saint John for individualized education, and because it is faith-based and wonderful.

S. E. Fitzjarrald, parent of a Kindergartner
May 2010

My expectations were exceeded. I liked the Christian based education, science experiments, field trips and art projects. We enjoyed all the activities and think there is a good balance.

A. Miller, parent of a Readiness class (3-year-olds) student
May 2010

I liked that the families are involved in the class parties, and being surprised by the new songs and rhymes learned in class. [My child] has learned a lot in this short time and really enjoyed it.

R. Rickers, parent of an Early Learners class (2 ½ year olds) student
May 2010

[My child] never once didn't want to go! My expectations were exceeded – [my child's] academic interest has increased: she wants to learn. We have truly loved Saint John!

K. Platto, parent of a Pre-Kindergarten student
May 2010

[My child] enjoyed coming to school here very much. I really can't think of anything that needs improvement. The cost of the program is less than other schools and the environment is very warm and positive. The staff is so friendly and caring and I believe my son has benefited very much from the program.

H. Mushill, parent of an Early Learners student
May 2010

I have so many fond memories of St Johns. What a great place for my two boys to have their first school experience. Teachers there are warm and concerned. I still remember Emily and Kathy S calling the " spring" play the Matthew show because he was the only one singing!(in his class) He isn't quite as "vocal" now but it was fun while it lasted. Michael had a wonderful Kindergarten experience and preschool also. He learned although and is now an A & B student-in 2nd grade with Math being his strong point. We live in NJ now but will always fondly think of St Johns and the staff there. Thanks!
Patty Seaman, Parent of a Kindergartener and an Early Learners Student
5/09

I like the size of the school for a preschool program. My children have gotten a solid start to their education and excellent care!

Kim Avant, Parent of a Pre-Kindergarten Student
5/6/09

I really liked that you let the kids be kids and while academics were focused on, it was not ridged. [I liked] all the different projects and things the kids learned with a hands-on approach.

Mrs. Kenyon is a wonderful preschool teacher. She is very patient and kind. My son, Truman, loves her and coming to school. He has learned so much this year. I am so happy with our decision to send him to your school. I will definitely recommend you to people in the future. Thanks for everything.

Leigh Skaggs, Parent of a Pre-Kindergarten Student
5/5/09

[We liked] the strong leadership of the school director, the caring staff, Pastor Olivier and the involvement of other wonderful parents at the school. I like the diverse activities our son was able to enjoy at St. John. We also like the strong Christian base at the school and we look forward to James enjoying and learning from the educational activities and projects we have seen and heard that occur in the pre-kindergarten classes. I would recommend St. John School to friends, relatives and neighbors to the pre-k, pre-pre-K class, and up, because of the hands-on activities, school activities and the excellent caring teachers we have experienced and loved at St. John.

Erica Steele, Parent of a Readiness (3-Year-Olds) Class Student
May 8, 2009

[Our expectations] were exceeded by far. The teachers are very loving, the atmosphere makes the children want to learn. We are very happy with all areas, and very pleased with school activities. I feel we get more than our money's worth. I feel it's a great school; you leave K-1 (Kindergarten/First Grade) very prepared, reading well, ahead of many schools at that grade level.

Linda Loper, Parent of a First Grade Student

May 14, 2009

I came to Saint John's with a very heavy heart, deeply worried about my son after having him in another 3-year old program in the area. After hearing negative feedback from the teachers at that school, we took our son out. I felt strongly that the things they had said about my son did not align with my personal experiences with him. I knew him to be outgoing, vibrant, and curious. They knew him to be quiet, a wanderer, and non-social. I was devastated and concerned. It took me 6 months to gather the courage to try another school - I chose St. John's.

I credit them with changing our first school experience from traumatizing to wonderful and uplifting. Mrs. Blair was something of an angel. She is gifted with boys and girls - and I have come to realize that is hard to find. Within weeks I realized I was NOT crazy, my son WAS outgoing, vibrant, and curious. He had been uncomfortable at the other school and I hadn't even realized it until I saw him thriving in a different environment.

And I was healed of tremendous pain and worry. I don't think some people know how much they have affected your life in a positive way.

Now my son is five and I am thrilled with Mrs. Kenyon, as well.

This is a special place for any child.

Koren Archibald, Parent of a Pre-Kindergarten Student

May 1, 2009

[My expectations] were met in all areas. [I would] most definitely recommend Saint John because of the low cost, the small class size, the activities, the religious values and the family feel.

Megan Miller, Parent of a Readiness (3-Year-Olds) Class Student

May 14, 2009

(from Survey 08-09)

1. Did your child enjoy coming to school?
Very much. They have made wonderful friends and have special *adult* relationships.
2. Were your expectations of the school program met or exceeded?
The K-1 class has gone above and beyond my expectations. The PE program has also taken off and I'm pleased with what is being taught and what the kids need to "perform."
3. What aspects of the school program have you liked the most?
Being unable to drive on field trips, I enjoy the groups that can come to the school.
4. Which areas of the school program could be improved? How?
Of course no program is without faults, I however am unable to say "what" could be improved.
5. Were you pleased with school activities such as: holiday programs, field trips, chapel, music, library, P.E. class? If you have any suggestion of other programs we could offer, please list them below.
I am pleased with all of these activities.
6. Did you find teacher conferences helpful? Was the timing of conferences appropriate?
My conferences were very helpful to me to know where my children were in relation to their age and other kids.

9. Do you feel the cost of the program adequately reflects the education your child receives?
I don't think you can put a price on education – when you get a caring staff that seems to communicate well with families as well as other staff, it reflects in how the students are treated.
10. Would you recommend Saint John Lutheran School to a friend or relative? Why?
Yes. The staff, including Pastor Olivier, are all very caring and really develop a love for the children.

Jennifer Blair, parent of a former student, and current Kindergarten student
May 14, 2009

This letter is in honor of Mrs. Edna Cooper (Kindergarten/First Grade Teacher) to thank her for her 16 plus years of dedication, true professional education expertise, true concern and care of the many, many children that have been part of her Kindergarten/First Grade and after care.

Daily life is so busy, and the time just goes by in years. My daughter, Seeleena Cruz, will be 14 in May 2010. It is thanks to Mrs. Cooper's outstanding, unsurpassable teaching foundation that my daughter has continued to be on the honor roll, enjoys learning, and looks forward to reading -- finishing two books in a week-end and can't wait to go to the library to get another one.

I was referred by a good friend and co-worker, Stan Parcell, to come to St. John Lutheran when Seleena was two. I worked full time and I was also in the reserves, and no family near by. He was aware of my concern for my daughter's education and future career goals for her. He told me to stop in to St. John Lutheran, no appointment. Just come by I did; Mrs. Cooper was in the after care room. Keep in mind I had done my research, and been to many places and due to her age Seleena had been with other people and places which had been a true nightmare. Seleena and I will always remember the day we came, Mrs. Cooper was sitting at the table, and welcomed Seleena. Thanks to Mrs. Cooper's excellent leadership skills and true concern, the other children welcomed Seleena.

Seleena started with the Pre-K and went on through First Grade. Thanks to Mrs. Cooper's hand made reading books, which I have kept and Seleena and I both treasure, Seleena was reading in Kindergarten. Mrs. Cooper made learning fun! The times tables -- Seleena knew her times tables in first grade. She also learned social skills for little girls, manners for politeness, lunch and self confidence; basic little lady etiquette, church service basics, and how to be a good friend.

Mrs. Cooper also went above and beyond, making all of us moms and dads feel special with all the cards, crafts that the children made for all the special occasions. I have kept all those crafts; Seleena brings them each year to decorate our Christmas tree, and as she decorates the tree she remembers Mrs. Cooper. I had always told Mrs. Cooper I wish she could be Seleena's teacher through college, and always truly caring, she said I am always here. She is correct, she is.

When Seleena graduated Mrs. Cooper's First Grade we went to Trinity Lutheran for second grade... Mrs. Cooper had done such an excellent job teaching Seleena, Seleena already knew what [the teacher] was teaching. Seleena finished 3rd grade at Trinity Lutheran and again Mrs. Cooper was there for us, and we did out-of-district at Mary Calcott. It was thanks to Mrs. Cooper's foundation that Seleena excelled in 4th grade... One of the things I saw when Seleena got to Mary Calcott was her St. John Lutheran classmates from Mrs. Cooper's class, who were also all excelling educationally and socially, on honor roll -- polite, caring classmates. For 6th grade Seleena went to Azalea Middle School, was in honor classes, and was accepted in the Norfolk Academy Learning Bridge/Breakthrough, which is a true honor. She also made the cheerleading squad, and when she was cheering at the different middle schools, she again saw her St. John classmates, again all excelling educationally and socially. Seleena and her classmates all have all-around success and I believe they will have continued success through high school and college, career, and life -- thanks to Mrs. Cooper's true care and dedication, insuring they as young children had a foundation for life.

Mrs. Cooper ... has gone above and beyond with her selfless dedication to the students of St. John Lutheran. I have talked with other parents whose children had Mrs. Cooper as their teacher and they feel the same way. Mrs. Edna Cooper is a true gift as a teacher, person, parent, and friend. St. John's is truly blessed to have Mrs. Cooper as a staff member.

LCDR Susie Grampp, parent of a former student
January 15, 2009
